



Diwakar Acharya

*Spalding Professor of Eastern Religions
and Ethics, Oxford University*

HIMALAYA
PROGRAM

Co-sponsored by the Centre for India and South Asia Research and Asian Studies

Nationalism, dogmatism, and what more: the crisis of vision in Nepali society

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2016

4 PM - 6 PM (4 PM reception, talk starts at 4:30 PM)

CK Choi Bldg, Room 120 • 1855 West Mall • UBC

Nepal's resources, natural as well as human, have good creative potential, but why is this potential not unleashed? In spite of some positive developments in political awareness, why is the leadership everybody wished for lacking? New ideas have been floated and some changes are brought, but instead of a breakthrough these have dismantled policy structures and are leading hardly anywhere. In Acharya's view, this indicates a deep-seated

crisis of vision, lack of pragmatism, and lack of true philosophical thinking. Emphasis has been placed on heroism rather than in knowledge, and there is a tussle at various levels but no real reconciliation. A blend of nationalism, identity, and class struggle is confusing the society. In his talk Acharya will discuss these issues and suggest that without a guiding principle and direction Nepal will not be successful as a nation.



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



INSTITUTE OF ASIAN RESEARCH